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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/690,296	10/21/2003	Takuro Sekiya	2271/71291	8028

7590 06/30/2006

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EXAMINER

LIANG, LEONARD S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2853

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/690,296	SEKIYA, TAKURO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Leonard S. Liang	2853	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-14 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10,12-14 and 21 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

In the response to election/restriction filed on 06/20/06, the applicant elected Species II. Claim 11 reads on the elected species. Therefore, claim 11 will herein be examined and all other claims will be withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yokoi (US Pat 5764245) in view of Minata et al (US Pat 5143904).

Yokoi discloses:

- {claim 11} An ink-jet recording apparatus (figure 1); a containing member which contains a recording medium (figure 1, reference 5); a printing unit comprising an ink-jet recording head which jets recording liquid onto the recording medium (figure 1, reference 1); a conveyance unit and a conveyance path for conveying the recording medium, one side of which has already been printed, into the printing unit again in order to print an image onto the other side thereof (figures 1 and 7-14; abstract); the ink-jet recording apparatus enables the printing unit to

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print images on the recording medium such that the vertical orientations of the images printed on both sides of the recording medium coincide with each other (column 3, lines 30-48); wherein the ink-jet recording apparatus has a memory for storing image data that is used for printing image on the back side of the recording medium, front side of which has been already printed (abstract; column 3, lines 1-18); the ink-jet recording apparatus sends the image data to the ink-jet recording head in the reverse order so that the image data is printed on the back side of the recording medium from bottom to top direction (abstract; column 3, lines 30-48; orientations defined as "bottom" and "top" are subjective depending on perspective)

Yokoi differs from the claimed invention in that it does not disclose:

- {claim 11} a recording medium which has a base member and granular material coated on both sides of the base member, and roughness of the surfaces of the recording medium coated granular material is smaller than the roughness of the base member

Minata et al discloses:

- {claim 11} a recording medium which has a base member and granular material coated on both sides of the base member, and roughness of the surfaces of the recording medium coated granular material is smaller than the roughness of the base member (column 7, lines 47-59; column 8, lines 3-9; column 13, lines 53-62; column 14, lines 8-9)

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It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Minata et al into the invention of Yokoi. The motivation for the skilled artisan in doing so is to gain the benefit of improved image quality with images of higher resolution.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Isono et al (US PgPub 20050052524) discloses a printing method and printing system and printing apparatus.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leonard S. Liang whose telephone number is (571) 272-2148. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5 Monday-Friday.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

06/22/06

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6/23/06
MANISH S. SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER